



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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USDA MAKES ANNUAL COUNT OF FLORICULTURE CROPS (CONNECTICUT AND MASSACHUSETTS ONLY)

In 2003, over one-third of the cash receipts received by agricultural producers in Connecticut and Massachusetts were generated by the greenhouse and nursery industry. How many floriculture operations were in business in 2004? How does the total value of sales compare with previous years in these two States? How have the varieties of products grown changed over time? These are just some of the questions that will be answered by the upcoming Floriculture Survey.

The 2004 Commercial Floriculture Survey is a census of all known commercial floriculture operations that produce and sell a minimum of \$10,000 of fresh-cut flowers, potted flowering plants, foliage plants, bedding plants, or cut cultivated florist greens annually. This yearly survey is part of a National program of official USDA statistics for the floriculture industry. It is important to have reliable information about this vital portion of the agricultural economy. This survey is the only official source of annual floriculture statistics for the States of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The New England Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is responsible for conducting this survey in these two States. In December 2004, approximately 750 Connecticut and Massachusetts floriculture producers will receive questionnaires. During the second half of January, non-respondents will be contacted by telephone or in person. The results of the survey are used by producers, grower associations, extension specialists, university researchers, suppliers, lenders, and lawmakers when reviewing farm practices and policies.

As with all NASS survey work, individual operator information is kept strictly confidential and is exempted from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. The individual reports are only used in combination with other reports to establish State and National statistics which will be published in the **Floriculture Crops 2004 Summary** available on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/ on April 26, 2005.

[The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Located in Concord, New Hampshire, it is responsible for agricultural statistics for all six States in the region. The office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through e-mail at nass-nh@nass.usda.gov. All National statistics and State level newsletters are available through free e-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/.]

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